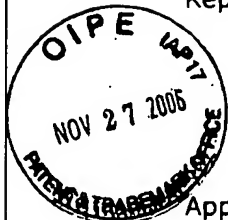


Appln. No.: 10/612,110  
Amendment Dated November 21, 2006  
Reply to Office Action of August 24, 2006

BSI-410US1



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appln. No: 10/612,110  
Applicant: David J. Zarbatany, et al.  
Filed: July 2, 2003  
Title: ENDOLUMINAL STENT HAVING A MATCHED STIFFNESS REGION AND/OR A STIFFNESS GRADIENT AND METHODS FOR PROVIDING STENT KINK RESISTANCE  
TC/A.U.: 3738  
Examiner: David Isabella  
Confirmation No.: 3378  
Docket No.: BSI-410US1

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

*ENR*  
*12/10/06*  
Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Responsive to the Final Office Action dated August 24, 2006, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

- ☐ **Amendments to the Specification** begin on page \_\_\_\_\_ of this paper.
- ☒ **Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.
- ☐ **Amendments to the Drawings** begin on page \_\_\_\_\_ of this paper and include an attached replacement sheet(s).
- ☐ **Amendments to the Abstract** are on page \_\_\_\_\_ of this paper. A clean version of the Abstract is on page \_\_\_\_\_ of this paper.
- ☒ **Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 8 of this paper.